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DATE OF June 1-7, 1953
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CPW Report No. 77 -- COMMUNIST CHINA

(June 1 - 7, 1953)

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1. (1c) SOVIET SUPERIORITY: Tihua reported (June 5) that a new power plant for the city would be completed in November. Soviet experts were directing the work and training workmen, and Soviet machinery was being installed. Tihua said (June 2) that Turfan basin, Sinkiang, peasants were using Soviet experiences in harvesting their crops.

Peking stated in numeral code (June 3) that Chungking University, Hua Hsi University, and Chungking Institute of Civil Engineering professors had taken a short course in Russian, and now used Russian textbooks and references in their teaching. Peking said in numeral code (June 5) that the Ministry of Heavy Industry designing section had shown remarkable efficiency since adopting Soviet methods. Nanking announced (June 4) that the Yungli Chemical Works had produced goods up to Soviet standards.

2. (2a) WAR BURDENS: Mukden stated (June 6) that Port Arthur-Dairen employed 11 times more women than last year. The Northeast now had 130 women mayors and department heads, and 42 village chiefs. Tihua said (June 2) that wages of rural women had been doubled to make them equal to men's wages, making women active in cooperatives and mutual aid teams.

Shanghai announced (June 1) that the East China Resist-America, Aid-Korea deputy secretary general made a radio talk on the third anniversary of the Korean War. Tihua reported (June 2) that the local RAAK called a meeting to promote various campaigns, including production and preferential treatment. Sian (June 4) added that at the Tihua meeting a committee had been selected to push the RAAK drive.

3. (2a) PEACE OFFENSIVE: Peking in numeral code (June 7) reported that American ruling circles were alarmed at the effect of Soviet peace moves on Western Europe. Peking asserted in numeral code (June 3) that American soldiers in Germany deliberately were injuring themselves to avoid being sent to Korea. Peking said in numeral code (June 5) that a San Francisco woman working for peace in Korea received thousands of supporting letters. Similar incidents were taking place in England and Canada.

4. (2c) ECONOMIC PROBLEMS: Peking reported in numeral code (June 1) a China Textile Workers Union directive that greater efficiency must be obtained during the summer months by the holding of fewer and shorter meetings. Peking said in numeral code (June 7) that technical workers in Chungking state enterprises had been ordered to assist workers in solving crucial operational problems.

Peking reported in numeral code (June 6) that the Fuel Ministry had informed coal-mining and state planning cadres that "an inferior quality of coal is universal among state coal mines at present," and that the situation had recently grown worse. A Kiangsu power plant reported a marked drop in efficiency, and the Tsitsihar Railway Administration "reported train stoppages because of bad coal." Huainan colliery, Anhwei, coal was reported to leave more than 31 percent cinders, with records in the Northeast not much better. A system of punishments and rewards was suggested for improving the quality of coal mined.

Tsitsihar complained (June 1) that a Heilungkiang inventory revealed large sums of unlisted property and billions of yuan tied up in idle capital. Tsinan reported (June 1) that the Shantung Government had ordered organization of hsien protection committees for warehouses and grain shipments. Hangchow stated (June 2) that Chekiang state trading companies were buying wheat 10 percent above last year's prices. Nanking said (June 2) that Kiangsu factory cadres had been warned that their lack of cost consciousness had affected plant operations.

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5. (3a) STRENGTHENING PARTY CONTROL: Peking asserted in numeral code (June 1) that a series of meetings had improved labor discipline and work attendance among textile mill workers. Peking added (June 6) that Northeast cadres were ordered to place high priority on study of the theory of economic construction in the USSR.

Peking reported in numeral code (June 6) that the Central-South Party bureau recently met to strengthen its work, with the result that 3,381 instructors in 43 political training schools now were giving courses to 370,000 cadres. Peking added in numeral code (June 7) that the Hopei Party committee had selected 197 cadres and 390 teachers to take political theory courses fitting them to be high school teachers.

Peking stated in numeral code (June 2) that 443 Southwest cadres would take a three months' course in political studies, including history of the Soviet Communist Party. Peking announced in numeral code (June 4) that the Southwest Party committee had called a meeting of mine and factory cadres. According to Peking in numeral code (June 4) 10,000 Sinkiang cadres would be divided into groups of 700 to study for seven months the policies of Lenin, Stalin, and Mao.

Peking in numeral code (June 5) transmitted a CHUNGKUO CHINGNIEN PAO call for the Nation's youth to struggle for universal suffrage, which would assure everyone of the right to "vote for youths endowed with revolutionary vigor."

Changsha (June 5) quoted a KUNGJEN JIH PAO article complaining of "capitalistic exploitation thinking" among workers and attempts to disrupt labor discipline. Changsha reported (June 5) that the local Federation of Trade Unions had called upon workers and cadres to eliminate remnant feudalistic thought and improve labor discipline. Kunming announced (June 5) that the local Party committee had ordered factories to increase production.

6. (3a) BASIC CONSTRUCTION: Peking announced in numeral code (June 7) that the Yingchiang-Flood-control Project, Yunnan, had completed construction of 13,000 meters of dikes; that the East China Construction Engineering Bureau was instituting organizational reform; and that Shihchiachuang, Hopei, had been transformed from a consumption to an industrial production center.

Tsitsihar announced (June 1) that private operators in 22 trades had received 71.8 billion yuan from State enterprises to supply basic construction needs.

Shanghai stated (June 6) that new construction totaling 220,000 meters of floor space was completed locally.

7. (3a) CONTROL OF RELIGION: Shanghai asserted (June 2) that local workers had expressed strong support for orders eliminating the reactionary Ikuantao and Chiukungtao religious sects, and added (June 4) that public security officers secured 70 registrations on one day in a single station, with sect members surrendering membership cards and reporting on activities of officers.

Shanghai announced (June 5) that the local public security office was organizing an exhibition to show how reactionary religious sects carried on counterrevolutionary activities. Shanghai (June 6) announced a talk on the sects by the deputy mayor, with accusations from victims, and (June 7) quoted the deputy mayor as saying that the organizations endangered life and property, that members who willingly registered would get lenient treatment, and that women should take a leading part in exposing the menace.

Peking (June 7) announced the formation of the China Buddhist Association in Peking May 30. Li Chi-shen asked the new group to be patriotic, "to distinguish clearly between friend and foe," and to support world peace.

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8. (3e) FARM DIFFICULTIES: Peking in numeral code (June 1) reported that Tingsien, Hopei, cadres had corrected their "deviations," and made substantial loans to individual farmers rather than favor mutual-aid teams and cooperatives.

Peking reported in numeral code (June 3) that the Heilungkiang Party committee had warned rural cadres that they must "pay due regard to land ownership" so the farmers' "enthusiasm for production may be fully developed." In the North China special districts of Tingsien, Hantan, Changchih, and Yuncheng, where cooperatives were pushed faster than in other areas, 25 percent of the cooperatives had to be downgraded to mutual-aid teams.

The Central-South Party Bureau warned cadres that the "People's Government policy aims at protection of peasants' land and property; organization of cooperatives and mutual-aid teams must be purely voluntary." Cadres must pay more attention to the farmers, and let them alone even when they carry on "in an organized manner, but actually work individually."

9. (4) AMERICAN IMPERIALISM: Peking in numeral code (June 1) quoted TASS reports that America supported Thai military preparations, and a shipload of military supplies arrived May 22. Peking in numeral code (June 3) quoted Indian sources as dissatisfied with the infiltration into India of American "teachers, scholars, and experts."

Peking in numeral code (June 2) quoted Japanese sources as saying that the American military occupation of Okinawa had brought misery and poverty to the natives, with farms turned into military bases and the peasants forced to work for the Americans, who received 2,000 yen an hour in contrast to the Okinawans' pay of 7,500 yen a month. Their wages were delayed, they were denied the right to strike, and were dismissed without cause.

10. (4) BORDER MINORITIES: Peking claimed in numeral code (June 4) that many of the 700 People's Liberation Army-trained Tibetan cadres had joined the Communist Party and Youth Corps, and added (June 7) that a PLA regiment was farming 1,300 mou of land it had reclaimed.

Peking asserted in numeral code (June 2) that conservancy work in the Ili, Shawan, and Tihua areas, Sinkiang, would add 1,300,000 mou of arable land. Peking stated in numeral code (June 7) that 150 households had been settled in Shawan Hsien under PLA supervision, with soldiers building an irrigation system and supplying tools and seeds. Tihua reported (June 4) that cadres had been organized to fight forest fires burning over large areas of Sinkiang.

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SUMMARY

Factories take pride in being able to produce goods up to Soviet standards; college professors now are able to use Russian textbooks; the new Tihua power plant is constructed by Soviet experts with Russian machinery. However, emphasis on direct Soviet influence is at the lowest point in many months, with the old themes of Sino-Soviet friendship and China's debt of gratitude to the USSR almost entirely neglected. Peking still promotes Moscow's peace offensive, but with stress on peace in Korea, while the war clearly is a growing burden.

Chinese Communist efforts to Russify the country are more evident. Party committees push political indoctrination of cadres and teachers, with continued stress on the history of the Soviet Communist Party. Labor discipline is emphasized, while Party action on a regional level obviously aims at tighter control of the production machinery. Suppression of Shanghai Taoist sects gets considerable attention, with exhibits and radio programs designed to prove the action justified. Instructions to the newly organized Chinese Buddhist Association show clearly that this organization is a Party and Government adjunct.

Higher prices for grain, special steps to guard grain supplies, and continued condemnation of cadres for forcing organization of cooperatives and mutual aid teams, all reveal difficulties. Insistence that Government policy is to protect private ownership and make membership in farming organizations purely voluntary--points which have been emphasized since spring planting started--suggests possibly widespread peasant dissatisfaction. Collective farms are seldom mentioned. A recommendation that textile workers hold fewer and shorter meetings follows similar action taken several weeks ago with respect to teachers and students. The low quality of Chinese coal causes considerable concern; yet only a few weeks ago Russian experts were praised for making possible the use of low-grade coal in industry.

Revelation that the People's Liberation Army is supervising resettlement of 150 Sinkiang families might be a further indication of friction there and of the reason for large PLA garrisons.

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